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REPORT OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SECTION.

During the year 1884, the Entomological Section has held its regular monthly meetings, dispensing as usual with those of July and August. The attendance has been fair, but by no means so large as is desirable. It was found that several members had been prevented from attending the Section, owing to other engagements. To remedy this, and with a hope that the change would be beneficial, by accommodating more persons, the Section, at its meeting held December 8, voted to change the time of meeting from the second Friday night to the fourth Monday night of each month, commencing January, 1885. The failure to secure additions to the membership has been very discouraging to the members of the Section, and it is earnestly hoped that the members of the Academy will assist in increasing the number.

The collections under the supervision of the Section, are at present in quite good condition. Much work has been done in the way of disinfecting and arranging the specimens. In an entomological cabinet this requires constant watchfulness, and cannot be dispensed with. The thanks of the Section are due to Mr. S. F. Aaron for much of this work.

Additions to the collection during the past year have been quite small. This has been principally owing to the fact, that those members generally most active in collecting, have been compelled by other more pressing calls, to defer such work to the future.

In connection with the American Entomological Society, there have been published, during the year, articles upon Entomology, amounting to 335 pages of printed matter, together with 9 plates. In addition, there has been printed a biographical sketch of John L. Le Conte, M. D., late Director of the Section, written by S. H. Scudder, also posthumous papers of the same gentleman, edited by Dr. Geo. H. Horn, comprising in all 68 pages, making a total of 403 printed pages. These entomological contributions continue to maintain the high standard of the journal in which they appear.

At the meeting held December 8, the following were elected officers of the Section for the year 1885:—

Director, . . . Geo. H. Horn, M. D.
Vice-Director, . . . Rev. Henry C. McCook, D. D.
Recorder, . . . James H. Ridings.
Treasurer, . . . E. T. Cresson.
Conservator, . . . Henry Skinner, M. D.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES H. RIDINGS,
Recorder.

REPORT OF THE BOTANICAL SECTION.

The Vice-Director of the Botanical Section has to report to the Academy that the affairs of the Section are in a generally prosperous condition.

Our Herbarium, already one of which the Academy is justly proud, has been increased in new species 407 the past year, without including the additions among the lower cryptogams. The excellent progress made in other matters, under the superintendence of the Conservator, Mr. John H. Redfield, is set forth in detail in his annual report to the Section, which is submitted herewith as part of the Section's report.

Meetings have been held regularly every month, except July and August, the average attendance for the whole year being slightly larger than last.

The Section is free from debt, and has a considerable balance in its treasury.

One of the events of the year was the social re-union and entertainment, in the hall of the Academy, of the botanists in attendance on the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, under the auspices of the Section. The expense was borne by the members of the Section, without any draft on its regular funds, or on the funds of the Local Committee of the Association. It is believed that the result will be useful to the Academy, in making the work of the botanical department better known, reacting in the interest of botany everywhere.

At the meetings of the Section many matters of interest to botanists have been presented, and some, by Professor Gray, Professor Rothrock, and Messrs. Meehan and Scribner, deemed of sufficient general importance to appear in the Proceedings of the Academy.